January 18, 2002

Attorney General Ashcroft U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft.

As a computer and software reseller, our company is in the "front lines" of dealing with the public. This lawsuit against Microsoft has created much uncertainty in the minds of many of my customers and clients, and has had a negative impact on my business. I was relieved to see that the lawsuit has settled.

While a few of the terms of the settlement are, in my opinion, harsh for Microsoft, many of the terms are good for consumers, giving them more flexibility in choosing various options for their software needs. This is particularly obvious in the provision that affects distribution of licenses to OEMs, who will have more opportunities to pre-install programs that aren't made by Microsoft. Consequently, I will have more options to sell different kinds of software and more effectively customize and install what my customers want.

I am in support of this settlement and hope that it is sustained through this review process.

Damon Porrill System Administrator

CC: Representative Spencer Bachus